IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously presented) A replication competent recombinant adenovirus, being capable to replicate and having lytic capacity in target cells, said cells being hampered in a p53 dependent apoptosis pathway, the virus being a conditionally replicating adenovirus and comprising in the genome thereof, the coding sequence of at least one restoring factor functional in restoring the p53 apoptosis pathway in said target cells, operably linked to one or more expression control sequences, functional in said target cells.

2. (Previously presented) The recombinant virus according to claim 1, wherein the virus is a human adenovirus.

3. (Previously presented) The recombinant virus according to claim 1, wherein expression of at least one essential early adenovirus gene is controlled by a tumor-specific promoter.

4. (Previously presented) The recombinant virus according to claim 1, wherein the adenovirus is a heterologously trans-complemented adenovirus.

5. (Previously presented) The recombinant virus according to claim 1, wherein the virus genome comprises at least the gene encoding the adenovirus E1B-55kDa protein or a functional analogue or derivative thereof.

6. (Previously presented) The recombinant virus according to claim 5, wherein the virus genome further comprises the gene encoding the adenovirus E1B-19kDa protein or a functional analogue or derivative thereof.

7. (Previously presented) The recombinant virus according to claim 5, wherein the virus genome comprises one or more of the genes of the adenovirus E4 region encoding E4 proteins or functional analogues or derivatives thereof.

8. (Previously presented) The recombinant virus according to claim 7, wherein the virus genome comprises at least the gene encoding the adenovirus E4orf6 protein or a functional analogue or derivative thereof.

9. (Previously presented) The recombinant virus according to claim 1, wherein the adenovirus carries a mutation in a E1A region encompassing at least a part of the pRb-binding CR2 domain of E1A.

10. (Withdrawn) The recombinant virus according to claim 1, wherein the restoring factor is chosen from the group consisting of p53, p63, p73, BAX, BAK, BOK/Mtd, BCL-X_S, Noxa/APR, PIDD, p53AIP1, PUMA,KILLER/DR5, Apaf-1, PIG, BID, tBID, BAD, HRK, Bik/Nbk, BLK, mda-7, p14ARF or functional variants, analogues or derivatives thereof.

11. (Currently amended) The recombinant virus according to claim ~~10~~ 1, wherein the restoring factor is p53 protein or a functional analogue or derivative thereof.

12. (Previously presented) The recombinant virus according to claim 11, wherein the protein lacks a functional binding domain for a human MDM2 protein.

13. (Previously presented) The recombinant virus according to claim 11, wherein the protein is a functional derivative of human p53 with mutated amino acids Leu-14 and Phe-19.

14. (Previously presented) The recombinant virus according to claim 1, wherein the target cell is a human cell chosen from the group consisting of cancer cells, arthritic cells,

hyperproliferative vascular smooth muscle cells and cells infected with a virus other than said recombinant virus.

15. (Withdrawn) Use of the recombinant virus according to claim 1 in a medicament.

16. (Withdrawn) Use according to claim 15 for the manufacture of a medicament for suppressing uncontrolled cell growth.

17. (Previously presented) A method for lysing target cells hampered in the p53 dependent apoptosis pathway, comprising the steps of:

- infecting the said target cells with the replication competent recombinant virus according to claim 1; and

- replicating said virus within said target cells, further comprising the step of providing, in the virus genome, the coding sequence of at least one restoring factor functional in restoring the p53 dependent apoptosis pathway, said coding sequence being capable to be expressed in the target cells upon infection thereof by said virus.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17, further comprising the step of subjecting said target cells to at least one of irradiation and a toxic chemical compound.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein said target cells are present in an animal body.

21. (Previously presented) A method for treatment of a subject body suffering from a condition involving body cells hampered in a p53 dependent apoptosis pathway, comprising the step of administering to said subject body an effective amount of the replication competent recombinant adenovirus according to claim 1.

22. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein the condition is associated with uncontrolled cell growth.

23. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein the condition is chosen from the group consisting of cancer, arthritis, and vascular smooth muscle cell hyperplasia.

24. (Previously presented) The recombinant virus according to claim 2, wherein the human adenovirus comprises serotype 5.

25. (Currently amended) The recombinant virus according to claim 9, wherein the mutation comprises a deletion encompassing amino acids 122-129 (LTCHEAGF) (SEQ. ID. 5) of E1A.